

M-Notices May 2011

MIN 407 (M+F) – M-Notices: Pricing and Availability Information

This note reminds mariners of the purpose of M-Notices, the means of obtaining them and the carriage requirements onboard ship.

There are three types of M-Notice:

- Merchant Shipping Notices (MSNs), which explain or form a part of maritime safety regulations
- Marine Guidance Notes (MGNs), which set out important advice, guidance and strong recommendations about best practice
- Marine Information Notes (MINs), which contain less important time-limited information and changes of address

Notices marked 'M' are particularly relevant to merchant shipping and those marked 'F' are particularly relevant to fishing vessels.

The carriage of M-Notices forms part of the nautical publications requirement in Chapter V of the international SOLAS convention. They can be carried in paper or electronic format, provided they are continually accessible to all relevant individuals.

Details of how to obtain copies of M-Notices are usually given in the Telegraph. MIN 407 notes that the subscription rates for paper copies obtained through EC Group have gone up slightly to reflect the rise in postage from April 2011.

At present, a consolidated set of M-Notices current on 31 July 2009 is published by The Stationery Office. MIN 407 reports that a more up-to-date version is due out in September/October this year – to include all M-Notices current on 31 July 2011.